

REMARKS**Claim Status**

Claims 1, 2, 6-16, 20, 21, and 26-35 are pending.

Claims 36 – 38 are newly added.

Claims 1, 2, 6-16, 21, 28, and 31-35 stand rejected.

Claims 26, 27, 29, and 30 stand objected to.

Amendment to Claims

No new matter is added. Amendments to the claims are supported for example in FIG. 2 and accompanying text as well as for example in the originally filed claims. New Claims 36-38 are supported for example in FIG. 2 and accompanying text as well as for example in the originally filed claims.

Objections

Claims 27, 29, and 30 have been objected to. Claims 27 and 29 have been amended in the manner suggested by the Examiner. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection to Claims 27 and 29 is requested. Claim 30 is objected to for dependence on objected claim 29. At least because the objection to Claim 29 is overcome, the objection to claim 30 is requested to be withdrawn.

Claim 26 has been objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 26 depends from Claim 1, which is allowable over the cited references for at least the reasons set forth herein.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1, 2, 6, 16, 28, and 31-35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Searles et al. (U.S. Patent Application Publication 2004/0120406) (hereafter "Searles") in view of Afshin (EP 1 283 615) (hereafter "Afshin").

Claims 7-9 and 13-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Searles in view of Afshin and further in view of Abidin (U.S. Patent Application Publication 2004/0100335).

Claims 10-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Searles in view of Afshin and further in view of Bass et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,449,576).

Claim 21 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Searles in view of Afshin and further in view of Creigh (U.S. Patent No. 6,823,483).

Telephone Conference

On September 21, 2005, the Examiner and applicant's attorney discussed Claims 1 and 32. The Examiner indicated likely allowability of Claims 1 and 32 in a manner substantially similar to that provided herein over teachings and suggestions of the cited references. The Examiner indicated likely allowability of Claims 2, 6-16, 20, 21, and 26-31 (which all depend from Claim 1) for at least the same reasons as pertain to base Claim 1. The Examiner indicated likely allowability of Claims 33-35 (which all depend from Claim 32) for at least the same reasons as pertain to base Claim 32.

Claims 36-38 are newly added. Claim 36 includes at least one recitation similar to that in objected-to Claim 26. Claim 26 has been indicated as including subject matter not taught or rendered obvious by the cited prior art (see section 7 of the Office Action). Accordingly, Claim 36 is allowable for at least the same reasons as pertain to Claim 26. Claims 37-38 depend from Claim 36 and thus are allowable for at least the same reasons as pertain to base Claim 36.

Accordingly, because all pending claims are allowable (namely, Claims 1, 2, 6-16, 20-21, and 26-38), applicant respectfully requests that all pending claims be allowed. If the Examiner has any questions concerning this application, please call the applicants' attorney, Glen Choi, at (212) 661-5488.

If there are any charges, please charge Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

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Michael J. Mallie
Reg. No. 36,591

12400 Wilshire Boulevard
Seventh Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90025-1030
(408) 720-8300